



**Bureau of Land Management: Arizona, New Mexico
Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2
Bureau of Indian Affairs: Southwest, Navajo, Western Regions
National Park Service: Intermountain Region
U. S. Forest Service, Southwestern Region
Arizona State Forestry Division
New Mexico State Forestry**

Date: February 18, 2016

To: SW Geographic Area Agency Administrators, Fire Management Officers, and Center Managers

From: Southwest Coordinating Group (SWCG)

Subject: 2016 SW Preparedness Plans

The SWCG recognizes the importance of interagency preparedness and response capabilities that will result in safe, effective, and efficient fire operations in the SW Geographic Area. Policy suggests that preparedness plans should include, but are not limited to (Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, 2016, Chapter 10):

- Fire Danger Operating Plan (FDOP)
- Preparedness Level Plan
- Initial Response/Pre-planned Dispatch Plan
- Step-up/Staffing Plan
- Fire Prevention/Mitigation Plan (as specified by agency requirement)
- Closure/Restriction Plan (as specified by agency requirement)

The SWCG authorizes SW Interagency Zone Boards/Dispatch Centers to develop their Preparedness Plans with a National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) Fire Danger Operating Plan, or with all of the above components minus the NFDRS Fire Danger Operating Plan.

The SWCG has also endorsed a SW Fire Danger Operating Plan Task Group to focus on training, implementation, and standardization of the ongoing updates to NFDRS known as 'NFDRS 2016' – including facilitating the development of interagency Fire Danger Operating Plans (FDOPs). This Task Group will keep the SWCG updated on new changes and progress at the national and geographic levels with the end goal of having a well-coordinated plan for development and implementation of NFDRS FDOPs across the SW geographic area.

Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group